

From: Ronald Large
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/22/01 1:01pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir:

I am a Microsoft product user, a user of Quicken (Intuit), and use software by many other developers. I started using home computers in 1981 (that is eighty-one, 20 years ago).

Microsoft has not harmed the consumer. On the contrary, Microsoft has immeasurably helped the consumer. We now have an unlimited choice of software.

And Microsoft isn't really a monopoly: if I wanted to run Mac OS10 I could buy a Mac and do so. Or if I want to use Linux I can get it free and run it on any of my computers! Actually I really don't care which operating system I use as long as it will run my current software and future software will be developed for it.

I once paid \$4,000 for a DEC computer using a DEC operating system. In all of Southern California there were only 2 stores selling software for that operating system, and there was only 1 wordprocessor for it! At that time Egghead Computer and numerous other stores were selling software written for IBM/MS DOS. DOS eventually dominated the market and became the operating system of choice for software developers (larger market for their product). This simplified things and expanded our choices of software.

As a California resident I am troubled by our Attorney General's stance on this issue. I assure that if Microsoft were located in Silicon Valley instead of Washington he would not be pursuing this suit. California's interest in this case is simply to help Sun Microsystems, Oracle and other California firms do what they cannot do themselves: outsell Microsoft in the marketplace.

Please settle the suit as agreed to by microsoft and most of the states.

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